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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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1-25-01

L. Spruell

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In the application of:
Seres et al.

S.N.: 09/218308

Filed: 12/22/1998

For: PROTECTIVE DEVICE FOR
DISPENSING DEVICES

A.U. : 2854

Examiner: A. Nguyen

Box CPA
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

The Applicant hereby requests this amendment be entered into and considered in the above-identified application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A protective device for dispensing devices which have a document feed path opening for dispensing printed documents, said protective device comprising:

[means for covering at least the document feed path opening of the dispensing device;

and

means for providing access to the document received from the dispensing device]

a hood having [a top portion forming an enclosure over the document feed path opening

and opening into said means for providing access; and